

Monmouth Peak Meadow Restoration Area T. 9 S., R. 7 W., Sec. 9



Location on 1998 aerial photo

## <u>Meadow Site Description – Mary's Peak Resource Area, Salem District BLM</u>

Landmark Name: *Monmouth Peak* 

Legal: 9-7-9 Date: 10-16-02

Slope: 0-40%	Aspect: Ridgetop	Elev.: 3200'	Topo site: ridgetop
Type: Mesic	Aerial: Photo: 34-27A-13	LUA: AMR	Acres: 27

<u>Description:</u> A high-elevation meadow in the Noble fire zone, with apparently little management impact of any kind, and few non-native species. Under snowpack for several months each winter. Same vegetation spp. As Harlan: Mesic meadow with a wide range of plants: POMU, PTAQ, ACMIL, SYAL, RUUR, FRVE, TANSY, DANDELION, ORANGE AGROSERIS, BLUE WILDRYE & ORCHARD GRASS, with the addition of- ALASKA BROME, VETCH. Adjacent forest stand to north/northwest is remarkable for its open-grown structure and open park-like conditions with little understory. Likely established about 100 years ago in previously non-forested area. Thatch ant piles scattered in meadow, unusual occurrence in the coast range.

<u>Vegetation condition</u>: PTAQ dominates over much of meadow. A heavy thatch of grass and bracken covers the soil.

Oak/hardwood: Noble Fir at S, SE edge of meadow, no hardwood.

<u>Conifer invasion</u>: Invading trees are about 50 years old or less, ranging from saplings up to 45-50' tall. Most trees have open-grown, limby crowns. Many seedlings & saplings in meadow within 200' of forest edge.

<u>Recommended treatments</u>: Conifer removal – the extent of removal could range from trees est. within last few decades to those est. 50 years ago. Fire reintroduction could be used to remove smallest conifer and aid in est. of more early seral vegetation species and increase diversity...would carry risk of weed establishment.

<u>Fire reintroduction comments</u>: Fire line- Private ownership of ridge in the southeast. With permission, use road and ridge, very effective to contain. No major hazards or risks under normal conditions.

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In this high elevation, mesic, productive site, conifer encroachment has been ongoing for decades, and some groups of conifer at the meadow's edge are 30-40 years old.





Conifer encroachment continues, many Douglas-fir and noble fir seedlings and saplings occur.





Despite conifer encroachment, Monmouth Peak remains an excellent example of mesic meadow in the Coast Range.